

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 07511 121621Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 OMB-01 PM-05 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-07
TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /124 W
-----084129 121627Z /43

O R 121528Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6064
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS LONDON 07511

USEEC
USOECN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, SA
SUBJECT: YAMANI AND US OIL IMPORT TAX

REF: LONDON 7071

SAUDI ARABIAN OIL MINISTER YAMANI MADE FOLLOWING STATE-
MENTS ON A POSSIBLE US OIL IMPORT TAX DURING BBC INTER-
VIEW ANTICIPATED BY REFTEL. PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED TO BE
AIRED WITHIN A FEW HOURS IN LONDON.

- YAMANI: "THE LEAST I CAN SAY IS THAT THIS WILL WEAKEN
THE SAUDI ARGUMENT INSIDE OPEC FOR A FREEZE OF OIL PRICE,
OR AT LEAST A REASONABLE INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF OIL
BECAUSE THEN, IF YOU ARE ABLE, OR IF YOU WANT A HIGHER
OIL PRICE WHY SHOULD YOU TAKE IT TO YOUR TREASURY AND
NOT OUR TREASURY. IT'S OUR OIL, SO I THINK THAT'S A
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VERY SERIOUS MOVE. ALREADY THE MEMBERS IN THE ORGANIZA-
TION ARE TALKING ABOUT IT AND THEY ARE THINKING LOUDLY
WHAT SHOULD BE DONE."

- QUESTION: "HAVE YOU MADE IT CLEAR TO THE US THIS
WILL BE VERY MUCH A SECOND-BEST ALTERNATIVE?"

- YAMANI: "NOT REALLY SO FAR, BUT WE TALKED ABOUT IT IN SEVERAL OCCASIONS AND OUR POSITION IS KNOWN THAT WE ARE NOT FOR IT. WE ARE AGAINST IT."

- QUESTION: "IF THE PRESIDENT WAS UNABLE TO GET THE ENERGY BILL THROUGH, HOWEVER, WOULD YOU PREFER AN IMPORT TAX RATHER THAN NOTHING?"

- YAMANI: "I REALLY HAVE SOME DOUBTS IF HE CAN FIND HIS WAY EASILY TO IMPOSE THAT TARIFF WITHOUT A REACTION AND OBJECTION FROM THE CONGRESS, SO WE DON'T CREATE ANYTHING RIGHT NOW."

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OILS, IMPORTS, CUSTOMS DUTIES, TEXT, TAXES, POLITICAL LEADERS, SPEECHES
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Draft Date: 12 may 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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